## The Semaphore

A Publication of the TELEGRAPH HILL DWELLERS

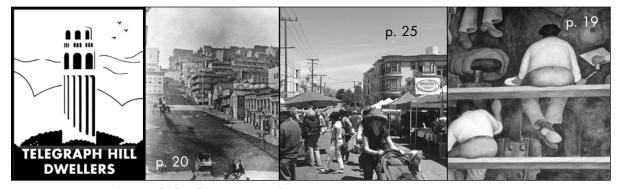


Jazz rolls out at the Savoy Tivoli.

# Jazzy Saturdays on Grant Avenue

see page 14

Issue 191 Summer 2010



#### **SEMAPHORE** Summer **FEATURES**

Joe Jachetta Remembered	Diego Rivera in San Francisco.19The Kearny Street Steps20The Kearny Steps Project: Vallejo to Broadway22Rural Meets Urban, Locally: The New North Beach Farmers' Market25Our Members Recommend26Save The Dates! THD Socials33The News from Central Station38
COLUMNS	THD BUSINESS
COLUMNS The President's Corner	THD BUSINESS  Board Motions
The President's Corner	Board Motions
The President's Corner	Board Motions

#### **SEMAPHORE STAFF:**

EDITOR: Art Peterson, 101A Telegraph Hill, 956-7817, apeterson@nwp.org

AD SALES: Nate Baca, nate\_baca@hotmail.com

Business Manager: Gail Switzer, 341 Filbert, 788-8667, gail\_switzer@yahoo.com

Typesetting/Design: Chris Carlsson, Cloverleaf Productions, 608-9035 cc@chriscarlsson.com

The Semaphore is a publication of the Telegraph Hill Dwellers for its members. Articles, except for the summary of Board of Directors' Motions, do not necessarily reflect the official position of the Association or its officers, but are the opinions of the writers of the individual signed articles. The Association can take no responsibility for their content. This membership publication is not to be reprinted or disseminated without permission in writing.

Printed on Recycled paper

### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Vedica Puri

Coit Tower Concessionaire. The Department of Rec. & Park issued a "Request for Proposal" (RFP) to prospective bidders to take over the Concession in the tower. After the last go around, which you may recall did not go so well, many THD members collaborated with other community members and the Friends of Pioneer Park to develop a memo summarizing key points that it should address. This time around, the Department incorporated a lot of the memo into their RFP before issuing the RFP. The deadline to respond to the RFP was

extended from June into July. Since this is a competi-

tive bidding process, the Department cannot share

details of who is bidding what and for how much.

But in a show of good faith, it will be allowing at least one community member to sit on the Selection

This column will serve as a brief update on

Freebairn-Smith & Crane
Planning, Urban Design, Architecture

Rod Freebairn-Smith Janet Crane (415) 398 4094 Committee that will be responsible for vetting responses to the RFP. The Department held a community meeting on June 3, 2010 to answer any questions



about the process and RFP. About 20 people attended, including Sergeant Knight from the North Beach precinct, and asked questions ranging from the security plan in place to the number of events that would be allowed (the response—"few"). A THD member, Sandra Legue, who is also a court reporter transcribed the entire meeting and we will be posting the transcript on our website shortly.

Landmarking Ruling. In June, 2010, the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) voted to "initiate" landmarking of the Marina and North Beach librar-continued on page 4

## Sean O'Donnell Handyman

"Anything can be fixed except a fallen soufflé."

307-1205

#### continued from page 3

#### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

ies. In May 2010, the THD Board invited and heard a presentation by library officials as an update on the fundraising and Environment Impact Report (EIR) efforts. The Board of Supervisors will consider the HPC request for initiation and vote on it as well. At the same time, the Planning Department is working to complete its Draft EIR which is due out shortly. The EIR will examine the proposal to demolish the current North Beach library and analyze an alternative to demolishing the library.

Planning Department's "Northeast Waterfront" Study. The THD's Waterfront Committee (co-chairs Andy Katz and Jon Golinger) have been tracking this study which was released in final form after months of community input. Despite many meetings and extensive written comments by the THD and other neighborhood groups, the Planning Department's "study" proves itself totally out of touch with what San Francisco residents and voters want on our waterfront. For example, the first

VICOLETTO
ITALIAN RESTAURANT
550 Green St., San Francisco
415.433.5800



recommendation is to build along the Embarcadero waterfront a series of giant private buildings modeled after big waterfront developments in other cities: "six- to seven-story buildings fronting most of the water's edge" (Hamburg), "stately seven-story buildings" (Stockholm), "tall, very high density housing immediately adjacent to the waterfront" (Vancouver), and "very tall office and residential towers, built in many places to the water's edge" (Chicago). Even assuming that information is accurate—which we do not think it is-walls-on-the-waterfront may work well in other cities, countries, and contexts but San Francisco has just begun to enjoy an open Embarcadero in the wake of the demolition of the Embarcadero Freeway. As San Francisco voters have made clear at the ballot box in rejecting large hotels on the Waterfront with Proposition H in 1990, a wall of massive buildings along our waterfront is not what we want. This recommendation and portions of the Planning Department's study do not seem to be what Supervisor Chiu had in mind at all when he made his original request to Port and Planning staff to conduct a holistic study.

Coit Tower Parking Restrictions. MUNI has approved restricted parking at Coit Tower for those with A stickers through the last weekend in September. The restrictions will apply on Saturday and Sunday.

That's the summer update for now. Looking forward to seeing folks at our upcoming social events.



## JOE JACHETTA REMEMBERED

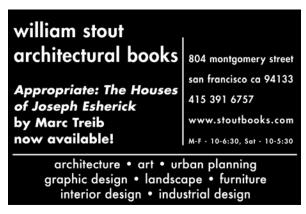
by Audrey Tomaselli

At this year's annual THD membership dinner Audrey Tomaselli presented this tribute to Joe Jachetta who died on March 26 at age 85.

leven years ago I had the privilege of interviewing Joe Jachetta about his memories of growing up in North Beach. Born on Telegraph Hill in 1924, he opened his Parkview Salon in North Beach in 1948. The salon moved a couple of times before settling into its present location on Union near Stockton

Joe was a neighborhood fixture, who told me "Some of my customers have been coming to me for 50 years. And I haven't burned out because I enjoy center stage; I enjoy what I do."

Some months after the initial interview he called me and said, "I want to ask you for a favor. For more than fifty years I have not been able to talk about my World War II experiences, and I wonder if you would help me record those memories. I think it's important that my family know something about that." I agreed, but I was unprepared for what ensued. We both cried a lot during that series of interviews. Originally I thought the transcript would be just for his family, but he later agreed to allow THD to make it part of its collection.





Lucy

For those of you who never met Joe, you have to know that he was larger than life, but very small in stature. And, in his younger years, quite fragile, as he had been a sickly child. At the age of 18 he enlisted into the Army and, on New Years' Day 1945, was with the invasion forces on the beach at Le Havre, France. Here is Joe's description of that day:

"We arrived at Southampton on a troop train from Scotland, then got on a very small freighter. We were put in the hold of this ship and there we stayed for a couple of days waiting for the invasion barges. They had these rope ladders down the sides of the ship, and we went over the side into this barge. I was right up front where the door went down when it landed on the beach. It was near midnight. When I walked off the invasion barge my feet touched

continued on page 6

## PLANNING & ZONING REPORT

by Nancy Shanahan

#### The Right to Discretionary Review Has Been Preserved

As a result of the overwhelming input of many neighborhood groups, coalitions, and individuals, at a hearing on March 8, 2010, the Land Use Committee of the Board of Supervisors tabled proposed legislation, backed primarily by developers and SPUR, that would have weakened or eliminated the Planning Commission's discretionary review (DR) authority. Thanks go to the members of the Land Use Committee—Supervisors Eric Mar, David Chiu and Sophie Maxwell—or listening to our voices. Although we hope the proposed legislation will lead to some improvements inside the

Planning Department as to project review procedures, Supervisor Mar acknowledged that "now was not the time for this reform legislation."

#### What Is Discretionary Review?

Discretionary Review (DR) is the Planning Commission's authority to review projects that appear to comply with the Planning Code provisions and take action if it is found that a particular case demonstrates an "exceptional and extraordinary" circumstance. Any individual or organization can file a DR Application on a building permit to request that a project be brought before the Planning Commission for public hearing and review.

The Planning Commission's DR authority is

continued on page 7

#### **Joe Jachetta Remembered** continued from page 5

ground and I thought: OK, I'm just going to wade onto shore. But I soon discovered that the barge had landed on a sand bar, so as I walked off this sand bar I went way down over my head with a full pack on. See, to the other guys, the water would have been just up to here [gestures to shoulder], but to me, it was over my head. The guy next to me reached down and pulled me up, but I lost my duffel bag.

We marched in our wet clothes in one of the coldest Januarys ever recorded to a school dormitory where I was able to take off my clothes and get dry blankets and dry clothing. The next day somebody found my duffel bag where it had washed up on the beach. Lucy's picture was in there. I tacked it up on the wall over my bunk so it would dry out.

Some weeks later we were in a building which was kind of a town hall in this little village; it was high in the hills so it was a good observation post. Evidently the Germans knew we were there so they started to shell the building. There were about ten

of us and we ran for the basement. There we all were, huddled in a corner, and the entire building came down around us. Fortunately we were able to get out of there to safety, but I had lost my knapsack once again. I'm not sure whether it was later that day or a couple of days after, but we passed by the ruins of that building. I dug through some of the rubble and found



Joe with Red Skelton

the knapsack with the Lucy photo. It was the second time I had retrieved it! And there was Lucy looking beautiful with a light behind her head. I STILL have that photo somewhere ...."

#### P & Z COMMITTEE

based on rights given the Commission by the City's Charter (its constitution), which authority was upheld by two published City Attorney opinions dating back over 50 years.

The idea is that additional scrutiny by the Planning Commission might be necessary in some cases to judge whether the design guidelines and Planning Code provisions were interpreted correctly by the Planning Department or whether there are circumstances unique to a case that warrant further modifications of a proposed project, beyond the standards of the Code and applicable design guidelines.

An example of a current project that is the subject of a DR application is at **30** Edith Street where the Planning Department has approved the replacement of a 2-story building with a 4-story building (plus roof top features extending even higher) on this narrow alley (between Edith and Edgardo west of Grant Ave.). Although the proposal is legally within

the 40-foot height limit, it exceeds the predominant height on this narrow alley and its design is out of character with most of the buildings on the block and in the surrounding neighborhood. Previous Planning Department review of this project required the elimination of the 4th floor, but a new "Residential Design Team" in the Planning Department reversed this prior recommendation and determined that the 4th floor is appropriate. Nearby residents have organized to oppose this project and have filed three separate DR applications with THD's support. At the time of this report, no date has been set for the hearing at the Planning Commission.

## What Was the Proposed "Reform" Package?

Part of the proposed DR "reform" package was an informal policy of the Planning Department to improve the project review process internally by estab-

lishing a new "Residential Design Team" within the Department and providing for better preapplication standards and early public notice process.

The controversial part of the process was the elimination of the public's right to apply directly to the Planning Commission for review of a project decision. Instead, a person or organization who felt that the Residential Design Team incorrectly applied the code provi-



At left, 30 Edith and neighbors.

PHOTO BY ART PETERSON

## FROM THE DESK OF

## SUPERVISOR CHIU

Thope everyone is enjoying the summer months and getting a chance to relax in our beautiful neighborhoods. June and July are historically the busiest at City Hall, and this year is no exception. Here are some highlights from District 3 and City Hall since the last Semaphore:

#### 555 Washington

In late spring, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors voted 10-0 to overturn the Planning Commission's determination that the environmental impact report on the proposed plans to erect a 38-story condominium tower next to the landmark Transamerica Pyramid was adequate, accurate and complete. As described in the THD resolution opposing the project, there were significant concerns raised by residents throughout the city about up-zoning the height for the property from 200 feet to 400 feet, selling a City street despite General Plan objectives that discourage such sales, casting additional shadows on public parks, and violating many other planning principles embodied in city law. From my perspective, the EIR failed to acknowledge the significant cumulative impacts of the project on wind, shadows, transportation, parking, aesthetics and other important neighborhood considerations, and the unanimous vote at our Board of Supervisors reflected that perspective. I want thank the many THD members who weighed in on this proposed development, and for standing up for appropriate development grounded in sound planning principles.

## Earthquake Preparedness and Pension Reform

On Election Day on June 8th, I was grateful that San Francisco voters overwhelmingly passed a critical bond measure that I spear-headed to rebuild our city's



emergency water system network of underground cisterns, reservoirs and tanks to fight major fires, which was built after the 1906 earthquake and is crumbling over 100 years later. The measure will also repair seismically unsafe firehouses and rebuild our city's emergency command center, which is housed in a seismically unsafe building that will likely fall down in a major earthquake. In the aftermath of Haiti, Chile and many other countries impacted in 2010 by earthquakes, I am relieved that our city is moving forward to be prepared.

I also want to thank San Francisco voters for passing a significant pension reform measure on the June ballot. Like local and state governments around the country, San Francisco is facing rising pension expenses due to health care costs and poor investment returns. Our Board of Supervisors proposed to require the city to set funds aside yearly to pay for pension costs, to require many new public employees to contribute more into their pension, and to reduce the practice of "spiking" that occurs when an employee bases higher pension payments on what the employee earns in his or her last year. With the passage of this reform package, the city is estimated to save \$425 million over the next several decades.

#### Public Safety—Entertainment Violence

I am happy to report that Club Suede is finally closed. After the numerous neighborhood complaints that were never addressed by our Entertainment Commission, my office worked to encourage the City Attorney's Office to finally bring a legal action to shut the club down, and the club has ceased opera-

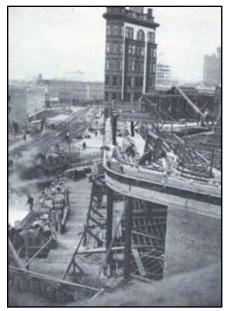
continued on next page

## THE COMSTOCK SALOON EVOKES THE CITY'S BRASH AND BAVVDY PAST

By Ernest Beyl

n encouraging new enterprise has taken root recently at the south edge of North Beach at 155 Columbus, right where it intersects with Chinatown and the old International Settlement on Pacific Avenue. It's the Comstock Saloon—whose operators, Jonny Raglin and Jeff Hollinger, believe it is poised firmly as a go-to social hub and hang-out for neighbors and visitors.

And early signs indicate that the two who prefer the designation "saloonkeepers" to the more proper "proprietors" would seem to have the concept right: an honest bar and restaurant serving



The Comstock is rebuilt after 1906 disaster.

So the Comstock Saloon is not a slicked-up new cocktail lounge and trendy dining salon. But rather it evokes—legitimately in this case—San Francisco's brash and bawdy past—a past that includes the infamous Barbary Coast (originally called Sydney Town because it was largely populated by convicts who had escaped from Australian prisons).

Jonny Raglin and Jeff Hollinger come to the new operation with good saloon credentials. Both, until recently, were with the highly successful Absinthe in Hayes Valley—Jonny as bar manager for five years and Jeff as general manager for more than

no-nonsense drinks and traditional, old-time San six years. Backing them is Absinthe's parent, Madwill's Francisco food.

#### From the Desk of Supervisor Chiu

continued from page 8

tions during the litigation. During the Entertainment Commission's discussion of Club Suede about the shooting, we were all surprised to learn from the City Attorney that the Commission might not have the authority to permanently revoke Club Suede's permit, so I drafted and recently introduced legislation that would provide the Commission with that authority. My legislation will be heard at the Board of Supervisors' Public Safety Committee in mid-July and will hopefully be passed by the full Board by the end of July.

#### Finally, A Farmers' Market!

After much neighborhood discussion, we have Issue #191 • Summer 2010

finally gotten a Farmers' Market into North Beach, on Mason Street between Columbus Avenue and Lombard Street. If you will recall, this block of Mason Street was temporarily closed to street traffic and converted into a temporary "park" as part of a trial last year to ascertain whether the closure would significantly adversely affect the North Beach neighborhood. Building on the success of that closure, the North Beach Farmers' Market will be open on Sundays from 9am—1pm, from June 13<sup>th</sup> through October 24<sup>th</sup>. Please come visit this latest summer addition to our neighborhood community, and buy and eat healthy and locally-grown produce!

#### Comstock Saloon continued from page 9

Food Company, whose president, Billy Russell Shapiro, is an active partner. Jonny Raglin, who sports a retro, waxed handlebar mustache and is a serious San Francisco history buff, says, "There's an old school kind of bar and a new school kind of bar. We stand firmly with the old school. We want the Comstock Saloon to be a gathering place, a community center where you can enjoy a beverage, something good to eat and socialize with old and new friends. And we want to be respectful of the Comstock Saloon's place in the history of this city."

There's been a saloon on the site since 1907 when Jim Griffin, a boxing promoter and manager of the nearby Broadway Athletic Club, opened it as the Andromeda Saloon. Soon it was frequented by fight fans and other sporting types. It was reported locally then that business became so brisk... "Angling executives, sharp-talking politicians and homesick sailors all rubbed elbows while brazen prostitutes flaunted coquettish charms at the brass rail of the ornate bar."

"The only exception," Jonny says "was during Prohibition (1920-1933) when it reluctantly became the Andromeda Café." Even then, the Andromeda provided kicks, but by prescription only, with what it called medicinal alcohol.

From 1908 through 1910 there were more than 40 Barbary Coast saloons, cafés and "resorts" along the few blocks of Pacific near the Andromeda. Among them were the Ivy, the Queen, the Bear Café, the Midway, Hippodrome, Dragon, Bella Union, Klondike, Moulin Rouge and the Dixie. It was in a Barbary Coast saloon that an enterprising Irish bartender (is there any other kind) named Michael Finn spiked customers' drinks. He earned immortality in the phrase "to slip someone a Mickey."

In those days business was rough and brisk; so rough that by 1913 the Andromeda Saloon hired Jack Dempsey as doorman and bouncer for about a year before he went on to beat Jess Willard in 1919 for the world's Heavyweight Championship. We're told

by Jonny that Jack Johnson, the first black to win the heavyweight crown, frequented the Andromeda Saloon in his later years. There was even a rumor—backed up by a plaque that hung in the site's more recent San Francisco Brewing Company—that noted bank robber and murderer, Baby Face Nelson, was apprehended in the saloon. Not true, but that's another story.

But Jonny, with his lively interest in saloon history, points out that during Prohibition Baby Face visited San Francisco seeking employment as a rum runner and would have made the presumably "dry" Andromeda Café a convenient stopover.

Decades later, in 1977, the famed saloon had fallen on hard times and became the Albatross, which enjoyed a lively business under new management for a number of years. Then, inexorably, in 1985 the Albatross became just that—an albatross—and the premises morphed into the San Francisco Brewing Company, said to have been the city's oldest microbrewery and one of the first four "brew-pubs" in the U.S. That operation was opened in 1985 by Allan G. Paul and closed its doors late last year, and that brings us full circle back to the Comstock Saloon.

Jonny and Jeff have carefully restored or re-created their saloon so patrons experience a time warp plunging them back into 1907 or even earlier. Overhead the Colonial Indian pukka walla ceiling fans with their original brass fittings and palm grass blades run the length of a solid mahogany bar that has been restored, as has the tin ceiling. The floor is reclaimed oak. A tiled urinal trough runs the length of the bar. (Some say it's really a long, narrow spittoon.)

The elaborate back bar has been there since 1907 and Jonny and Jeff believe it to be a Brunswick, the pool table outfit that dates back to 1845. It's topped by a four-and-a-half foot, 350 pound bronze sculpture of Emperor Norton, the zany, self-proclaimed, Imperial Majesty of the U.S. who lived here—and ruled benevolently—in the 1800s. (He may have been loony tunes but he proposed a bridge and a tunnel across San

## IF THESE WALLS COULD TALK THE CANESSA PRINTING COMPANY BUILDING

by David Stephenson

In 1848 the San Francisco Bay lapped to the edge of what is now Montgomery Street. The first building to reside on the Canessa site was probably the wooden sailing ship "Georgean." The 1849 Gold Rush brought tens of thousands of miners to San Francisco in just a few months. Once at anchor, crews deserted their ships to follow passengers to the mines. In 1850 hundreds of sailing ships lay abandoned and rotting in the bay. A shortage of wood for

the stores, houses, warehouses, and hotels necessary to support the population explosion in San Francisco necessitated that these ships be hauled onto dry land to serve as interim buildings. It is probable that other wooden ships once rested next to the "Georgean" as the bay was quickly filled around them. The fires that swept San Francisco with great frequency burned the ship hulls to the sand. Rapid construction of new buildings in bricks, plus expanding landfills, has erased all outward evidence of their existence.

continued on page 15

#### P & Z COMMITTEE

continued from page 7

sions or design guidelines would have to apply to the Residential Design Team, made up of the same planners who made the earlier decision on the project in the first place. Only if the Residential Design Team determined that there existed an "exceptional and extraordinary circumstance" would the project be scheduled for a DR hearing by the Planning Commission. We felt this was akin to the "fox guarding the hen house."

## Why Is the Planning Commission's Discretionary Review Authority Important to Protecting Our Neighborhood?

Data presented in connection with the Planning Department's proposal to weaken the Planning Commission's DR authority revealed that the areas in the Northeast quadrant of the City have had the smallest number of DR Applications filed of any other neighborhood in the City. As a matter of fact, THD has filed only two DRs in the past 5 years. We believe this low number is the result of THD's work with project sponsors, neighbors and City planners to achieve the best possible development solutions without the need to file an application for DR. The very Issue #191 • Summer 2010

existence of the Planning Commission's DR authority has been key to being able to effectively resolve development issues.

Because of the importance of the DR process as a means for preserving neighborhood character and ensuring that residents have an effective forum to work out development disputes, THD's Board of Directors adopted a motion, by unanimous vote, to oppose the DR reform that was proposed by the Planning Department. In taking this position, THD joined with neighborhood organizations across the City to maintain the long established due process rights of individual citizens and organizations to petition the Planning Commission to review individual projects that may violate the City's "Residential Design Guidelines" that appear to have "exceptional or extraordinary" elements in their particular setting.

THD remains committed to working with the Planning Department and other neighborhood organizations to improve the project review process to reduce the number of DR's citywide. A special thanks goes to our own Gerry Crowley, former President of THD, for her work with members of "Neighborhood Network" who worked long and hard with the Department on these important issues.

11

## SCHADENFREUDE

#### By Anthony Long

With this issue the Semaphore begins an occasional feature spotlighting the work of neighborhood writers of fiction writing about the neighborhood.

spectre is haunting the Caffe Trieste—the spectre of Success. All the poets of the Wise Men have entered into a holy alliance to exorcise this spectre: post-modernist and Quatrainist, writers of ode and free verse, balladeer and beat.

On a wet, cheerless day, they huddle in the back of the café beneath the mural of the Italian fisherman, huffing and bellowing, fueled by wine, gray heads bobbing up and down like ducks on a choppy pond. The mood is agitated.

One of their own, Kazimir Clegg, is on the

verge of publishing a collection of his work through a major New York house. It's pay dirt, the big score. Worse, he expects everyone else, whose publishing histories are confined mainly to Pip Printing and mimeograph machines, to be happy about it.

"When was the last time he took part in one of our readings?" says Carl Rhys, his sleepless, redrimmed eyes moving coldly from one poet to the next. Mimicking Kaz's high, nasally voice, Rhys continues: "I have nothing to read. I haven't written anything in ages.' What a load of crap." There's a murmur of assent.

"He's always had an air about him," says Gregory Genet, an aggressive post-modernist sporting a white goatee and a bad dye job. "How did you like the way he strutted around here the other day, shaking hands continued on page 29

#### Comstock Saloon continued from page 10

Francisco Bay.) The statue was created back in 1939 by North Beach sculptor and jewelry designer Peter Macchiarini and was donated by his son, Dan, who carries on his father's work on upper Grant Avenue.

Walls are decorated with artifacts and memorabilia detailing the history of the saloon and the neighborhood. And there's a small Victorian parlor, ideal for courting (to use the old fashioned term). The adjacent dining room has the original blue and white tile floor and tin ceiling. Presently a jazz trio adds the proper ambience.

Although Jonny and Jeff were celebrated at the Hayes Valley Absinthe for serving scores of fanciful, multi-ingredient drinks, the Comstock Saloon sticks closer to historical precedent. Among the selections are the Martinez (the original Martini said to be first crafted across the Bay in the community of the same name), the Negroni, the John Collins, the Manhattan, and more esoteric drinks associated with old-time San Francisco: the Sazerac Cocktail and Pisco Punch. Then there's the Hop Toad (rum, apricot brandy and lime juice) that Jeff says dates back to the early days of the city. There's beer, wine and other spirits, of course.

And if you're hungry for snacks, lunch or dinner, Comstock Saloon chef Carlo Espinas can rustle up his beef shank pot pie, a crock of beans, crab cocktail, fisherman's salad, a game hen with oyster stuffing and other "real" food. In Jonny's and Jeff's crystal ball for the future are Hangtown Fry and an Oyster Loaf.

"We're committed to offering a great historic environment and great food and drink," says Jeff.

Jonny has the last word: "We know there are a lot of empty storefronts in the neighborhood these days, but we sense a resurgence of vitality in North Beach. Jeff and I are optimistic. We believe the Comstock Saloon is a class act and that we've got the concept right."

Ernest Beyl is a frequent contributor to Semaphore. His last piece here was "A Saloonist's View of North Beach."

#### Canessa Building continued from page 11

By 1856 a two-story brick building was standing on the site of the "Georgean," the lot later numbered as 708 Montgomery. In the 1850s and 1860s, a merchant by the name of Frank Bergin is believed to have owned the building. The California Steamship and Navigation Company occupied the rounded roof building to the south and the merchant Langerman's was to the north. The Sanborn Fire Insurance Map of San Francisco (1886-1893) indicates that 708 Montgomery Street was occupied by a three-story building housing the Furne Printing Company. By 1893 the Canessa Printing Company was established and operating from this address.

The landmark buildings further north on Montgomery reflect their 1850s design and construction heritage. In contrast, the Canessa indicates an evolutionary design history and the work of sev-

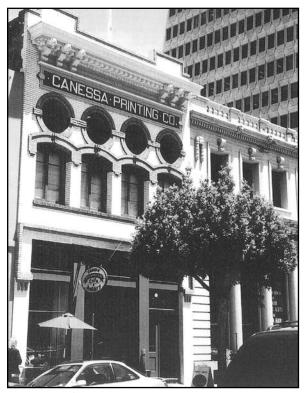


PHOTO: MARJORIE CAHN

eral artisans. Beneath the foundations of the building lay the wooden ribs of the "Georgean." Supporting the first and second stories could be the remains of the original 1850s construction. The Italian-American architect Luigi Mastropasqua is attributed as the designer and builder of the current building, but he was also known as a talented remodeler. As his work at 708 Montgomery was performed early in his career, it was most likely he was hired to extensively remodel the exterior of the building in 1905 and again after the 1906 earthquake.

In 1925, sculptor Ralph Stackpole and painter Timothy Wulff began work to turn the buildings at 716-718-720 Montgomery into artists' studios. For the next 35 years, artists, including Diego Rivera, William Gerstle, Caroline Martin and Ruth Cravath, sculpted and painted in these buildings. It is rumored that the Chinese patriot, Sun Yat-Sen, lived in a room of the third floor at the front of the Canessa at the turn of the twentieth century as the Constitution of the Republic of China was reportedly written at the Halleck Building located across the street (where the Trans-America Building now stands). The Black Cat Café, an artist's retreat and bar before WWII, and subsequently the first openly gay bar in San Francisco after the war, was located on the ground floor of the Canessa building from the 1930s to 1963. The Canessa Printing Company ceased operations and moved out of the building in 1965.

The Canessa has served many purposes over the past one hundred and fifty years as San Francisco has evolved from a supply base for the mines to a source of creativity and financing for Silicon Valley high-tech firms. What was once modern became antiquated as upper Montgomery Street fell from commercial prominence to be rediscovered again as a unique and creative escape from the glass and steel towers nearby.

David Stephenson is a teacher and historian who spent a year at Canessa inventing medical devices.

#### BIG MONEY ENLIVENS GRANT AVENUE SATURDAYS

by Dick Boyd

In the late 1940s I knew it as the New Tivoli. It was where we held our fraternity banquets upstairs. In the early 60s I walked by it every day on my way to work down on Broadway. Not much going on in those days. However, if you happen to walk along Grant Avenue on a Saturday afternoon these days you will hear the sounds of jazz wafting from the landmark bar/restaurant, now known as the Savoy Tivoli. The sounds originate from a group called "There's Big Money in Jazz Band."

How did they get that name? Well into the '80s some of the current members were playing along Telegraph Avenue in Berkeley. Mal Sharpe, who now heads the band, had left his trombone case open on the sidewalk. When somebody came by and tossed in a few coins, Mal commented somewhat sarcastically to one of the group, "Hey, Mike, this year there's going to be big money in jazz." Later, when Mal was putting the group together he decided that could be a "catchy" name. Mal of course is the colorful MC for the group at the Savoy Tivoli.

The group's first North Beach gig was at Enrico's in the late 80s, where they played until it closed in the mid 90s. Over the years there have probably been 80 different members of the band, many just filling in for the more steady members. You will find that they all have ties playing jazz in North Beach going back decades. All agree that the Savoy Tivoli is hands

down their favorite venue. The owner, Claire, and manager, Juan, the bartenders, the regular customers, even passersby, all feed into a great overall ambiance in an incredible setting.

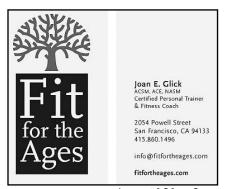
It all started at the Savoy Tivoli when the group was asked to play for the first "Grant Avenue Cookie Crawl" in 2005. After that first appearance, Juan and Claire and the band all agreed it was exactly the right place for a jazz band. The open space hooked passersby who just had to check it out. It's been a business marriage made in heaven, not just for the Savoy Tivoli but also for other nearby businesses that have benefited from the increased traffic.

Trombonist and Jester Mal Sharpe is the organizer of the group. He was living on Greenwich just off Grant when, in 1962, he started playing at the Anxious Asp on Green Street and later at Tipsy's at 556 Broadway (later Big Al's and now a porn shop) for Pee Wee Ferrari. He played there until the topless craze hit and an all girls topless band replaced the group. He lives in Berkeley now with his wife Sandra whom he met in North Beach.

Behind Mal in the cover photo is Si Perkoff on the piano. Si started on Broadway working for Meyer Neff at the Chi Chi Club, 440 Broadway, formerly Ann's 440. He played at the Coffee Gallery, The Place and other beatnik hangouts along Grant. All told, Si has 50 plus years of jazz experience.

continued on next page







Si Perkoff at the Savoy

PHOTO BY LINDA HANSON

In the cover photo, on trombone on the left next to Mal is Bob Mielke, 84 years young. He is a native of SF and a graduate of Lowell High School. He has over 60 years in playing jazz in North Beach. One gig was at Milleo Miletti's famous Burp Hollow at 473 Broadway. The bar was well known for the blond mannequin sitting at the bar. Many a drunk bought her a drink before realizing they had been suckered. Milleo was wheel chair-bound, had a gruff voice and was an intimidator for ANY employee. After the band's 15 minute break he would shout, "Show Time!" Nowadays Mal mimics that in jest at the Savoy Tivoli at the end of break time.

Playing the bass is Joe McKinley. Joe is a product of Santa Monica High School where he played the tuba in the band. At about 22 or 23 he took up the bass and never looked back. Although short lived, Joe's

biggest thrill and learning experience was with the "Sun Ra Arkestra" band. He described it like being in the middle of an ongoing stage production with all kinds of dancers and other performers coming and going. Joe also played with the Earl "Fatha" Hines Band. Joe has been performing in North Beach since 1973. He was the house bass player at the Jazz Workshop and played at Pearl's on Columbus. He joined with Mal and the group in 2005 at the first "Cookie Crawl."

On the trumpet/cornet is Leon Oakley. In 1968 Leon relocated from Binghamton, NY, to join the Turk Murphy Jazz Band in San Francisco where he played for 11 years. Some of the other groups he has or still does play with are The South Frisco Jazz Band, John Gill's Yerba Buena Stompers, Black Diamond Blue Five and Dave Rickett's Gypsy Jazz Band.

continued on page 24

### THE ALFA NOSE

By Kathleen Cannon

Spider Veloce '77 springs into summer with a Taste of TelHi, buzzes the North Beach Fair, and shops the new farmers market..

#### A Taste of Tel-Hi 2010\*\*\*\*/\$\$\$\$

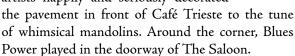
he Telegraph Hill "A List" assembled at Tel-Hi Center May 15th for a Taste of Tel-Hi. The event was sold out and raised in the neighborhood of \$100k. Visible were Katherine Petrin, Aaron Peskin, Nancy Shanahan, Gerry Crowley, June Fraps, Paul Scott and Eric Potashar. Two score of volunteers manned the function, serving guests champagne in the garden patio, setting tables with numerous California wines, then serving multiple courses. Volunteers also sorted and tracked over 150 donations. Dana Litwin, Volunteer Manager, deserves a standing ovation (since she never got to sit down), as does Donna Farr, the Development Manager. The Big Bucks raised will be used for vital kids' and elder programs.

#### All the Young Dudes, and Dudettes

There will the Current Generation be drinking this weekend? After Union Street, it was Grant Avenue and the North Beach Fair on June 19-20. According to David Wright of Café Divine, the 2010 event set up was fast and quiet, beginning at 11p.m. the night before. Per David, food may not be served in Washington Square Park next year, "it competes with restaurants." Drinks? With Heineken as the sponsor, street spirits are around for the duration. This year the booths on Grant faced east. Rotated yearly, in 2011 booths will line the other side of Grant Avenue. The direction of the booths has a big effect on business for the Grant Avenue merchants.

Security was all around. S.F. Police clustered in 2-3's. An officer noted there was consequently "no

beat in Fisherman's Wharf, Chinatown or Union Square." A Park Ranger on horseback "made certain dogs were on leashes and that everyone behaved." At the corner of Grant and Vallejo, chalk artists happily and seriously decorated



David Wright pointed out crowds were rowdy on the windy, blustery Saturday, but on Sunday, Father's Day, everyone was well behaved. But, while obviously organized and well policed, the North Beach Fair could be more uniquely North Beach—solomente North Beach arts, crafts, businesses, rather than a rotating street carnival and SF drinking venue.

Organizer Steven Restivo said he is running the numbers to see if the event was a success for his client, the North Beach Chamber of Commerce. Being Italian and having run over 300 fairs/events for 30 years, Steven says our fair is his new favorite. He understands the green issues involving Washington Square Park. Ideally, in 2011, he wants to move out of the Park entirely onto Stockton Street and part of Columbus. And this year for the first time, THD, Russian Hill Neighbors and Friends of Washington Square shared a booth—for free.

#### The Greening of the Hill

xpect tidal activity in North Beach and goats and cows grazing Cow Hollow. We're coming full circle.

Jane Martin of Plant\*SF (www.plantSF.org) made a great presentation for THD Monday, June 28th, at Canessa Gallery. Her mission is to train neighborhoods in how to make more 'green areas.' A landscape architect and member of the Department of the Environment Commission, Jane showed loca-

continued on next page

tions where public areas have been reclaimed from pavement and turned into planted areas. When sidewalks (which must be 4' wide) break, residents must repair them. This is an excellent opportunity to file for a permit and submit a plan to "beautify adjoining public areas by planting trees, plants and putting in pavers and gravel." Sustainability and beautification candidates include climate-adapted greenery like apple trees, bamboo, and natives. For more information Google the Pavement to Parks Program.

Thanks not only to Jane Martin for an information rich evening, but also to Zach/Canessa Gallery, Hannah Market for refreshments, and to the Parks, Trees and Birds Committee of THD. Bravo!

## Just a Short Ride from Modesto... Welcome Farmers' Markets

une also saw a new neighborhood farmer's market burst from a seedling. At Mason/Columbus, Urban Table/North Beach Farmers' Market has set up for a two month trial period, open 9:00 to 1:00, Sundays. Though the market is small, the site offers organic produce freshly picked from Marin and Pescadero. (See www.urbantable.org and, www. CAFarmersMkts.com)

What's next? Why not string lights and hold a "night market" like in Thailand, or Garibaldi Square in Cuidad. Mexico?

#### The Bocce Player's Tale

ook carefully on the Joe DiMaggio Park side of The North Beach Farmers' Market on Sundays, and you will see the beginning of a two month Bocce Ball tournament, twelve teams sponsored by Gino & Carlo. Check out the 12 team board at G&C behind the pool tables to see who's on first. Playoffs in August.

#### Ft. Mason Community Garden

Between the Officers Club and the Youth Hostel in Ft. Mason is an historical garden maintained by a non-profit organization, where city dwellers sans yards can plant to their hearts' delight. Check it out at www.fortmasongarden.org. Expect a waiting list, but the garden attests that a wide variety of plants and produce can grow on the north waterfront between Telegraph Hill and the Marina.

## If You Don't like the News... Go Out and Make Some of Your Own

o many cool things this summer! Fior d'Italia, on May 1, rolled back prices to 1886 to celebrate their 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary. A line of 800 hungry gold diggers snaked around the blocks, continued on page 23



Zach Stewart and Jane Martin at Canessa event.
Photo: Kathleen Cannon

#### **RESTAURANT REVIEW**

## WHEN IN NORTH BEACH, DO AS THE ROMANS DO



By Carol Peterson
COLOSSEO, 414 Columbus Ave., San Francisco
94133

415.398.1300 ★ ★ ★ ½

orth Beach is known worldwide as Little Italy, and with the flurry of excellent regional Italian restaurants that have opened recently, we are stepping up our image of fine Italian cuisine. The opening of Colosseo, with food from Rome, is another great addition.

Before Colosseo opened, we peeked through the windows as the muralist Louis John Castillo was working on the huge replica painting of the Coliseum on the wall. The work beautifully carries out the theme for this eatery that is all about Rome.

My curiosity was piqued when this new restaurant hadn't even opened and it won the Noodle Fest in North Beach. Who are these people that can compete among some of the best Italian establishments in North Beach and win first prize? I was soon to find out, and much to my delight, I discovered they deserved to win.

The restaurant's owner, Salvatore Nevigato, comes from a long line of restaurateurs. He was born in Italy where his dad was in the restaurant business. The family moved to San Francisco when he was small and his mother worked in the local ravioli factory. His whole family is in the business, including his sister, Silomena-Nevigato Florese, the owner of the long standing Mona Lisa. Sal pursued a career in banking for years and then, in opening this restaurant, came back to his roots.

Though the establishment has an elegant feel, the prices are competitive with other locals. There is a newly redecorated outside patio. The bar is beautiful with wood that matches the tables and chairs.

We tried several wonderful appetizers, but the two worth special mention are the bruschettas. In one, the traditional vine ripe tomatoes, olive oil and garlic was served on crusty but soft in the middle, oilbrushed bread from the Italian American Bakery on Grant Avenue. The flavor was of a tomato just picked from the garden and the bruschetta had a crunchy, soft feel, with a lingering sweet garlic taste. The other bruschetta was a combination of mushrooms, eggplant and peppers. I loved the combination of these three ingredients.

The Olive Ascolana consisted of fried green olives in the Roman style, stuffed with spinach, bell peppers and carrots. They are unique and delicious!

As I wanted to taste a sampling of their pastas, we were served a trio. The lobster-stuffed ravioli has a light tomato cream sauce. The ravioli is tender and the ground lobster stuffing rich and buttery. The Ravioli ai Porcini is pocket ravioli filled with porcini mushrooms and served with a porcini cream sauce. If a porcini mushroom is prepared correctly, it is my favorite mushroom, and this dish gets an A+. By far my favorite of the three, though, was the Gnocchi Ostia Antica. The gnocchi is filled with four cheeses and topped with tender broccoli rabe, olives and a buttery anchovy sauce, an outstanding combination of flavors. When I asked Sal about the unusual use of a broccoli for the topping of gnocchi, he told me, "When we were kids, we used to go the country and pick the tender stalks of this vegetable. I have been eating it all of my life and love to include its rich flavor in my dishes."

Although Colesseo is known for its fabulous

continued on page 24

### DIEGO RIVERA IN SAN FRANCISCO

by Will Maynez Diego Rivera Mural Project, CCSF

an Franciscan Albert Bender started brokering, pro bono, Diego Rivera's easel work locally in 1926, though he had never personally met the Mexican artist. "St. Albert," as he was affectionately known, "grubstaked" many local artists, including Ansel Adams.

Bender heard about Rivera through Ralph Stackpole, a local sculptor who had years earlier met Diego in Paris. Plans took shape to get Rivera to San Francisco and on November 10, 1930, Rivera and his wife Frida Kahlo finally arrived here.

In the 1920s the 700 block of Montgomery was converted into artist's studios. Ralph Stackpole's studio at 716 was Diego and Frida's home while in San Francisco.

Frida was an immediate exotic sensation. The iconographic *Frida and Diego Rivera* (SFMoMA) painted by Frida in San Francisco and dedicated to Albert Bender, was his gift to the museum.

Participating in the life of the Bay Area they drew attention wherever they went. "He was the hit of the Stanford-California football game in 1930, which he attended in a sombrero with his wife, the artist Frida Kahlo, dressed in a full native Mexican costume."

In 1931, for premier local architect Timothy Pflueger, Rivera first painted the *Allegory of California* at the Stock Exchange Tower in what is now the City Club. This celebration of the riches of our state is homage to Giotto's "St. Francis cycle" of paintings. St. Francis is, of course, the patron saint of San Francisco.

He next painted the fresco for the San Francisco Art Institute. There was some discussion over what Rivera meant by picturing himself in the mural with his posterior hanging off the scaffolding. There had



been initial resentment to an outsider getting such prestigious commissions while local artists were going hungry. But soon many artists realized that Rivera had energized the local art scene to the benefit of all.

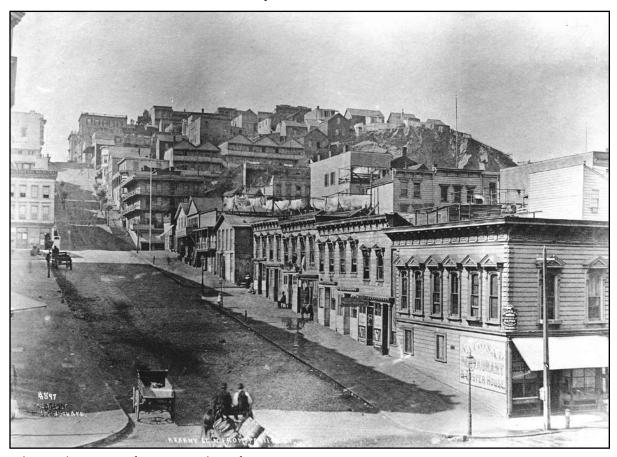
John Weatherwax was sent to San Francisco from southern California by Upton Sinclair and Sergei Eisenstein to get Rivera's advice on the movie they were doing in Mexico. After getting Diego's help Weatherwax just stayed around. He wrote several short stories, one of which was about Frida, *The Queen of Montgomery Street*.

In October 1933, architect Arthur Brown, Jr. unveiled his new Coit Tower. The most immediate

continued on page 27

## THE KEARNY STREET STEPS

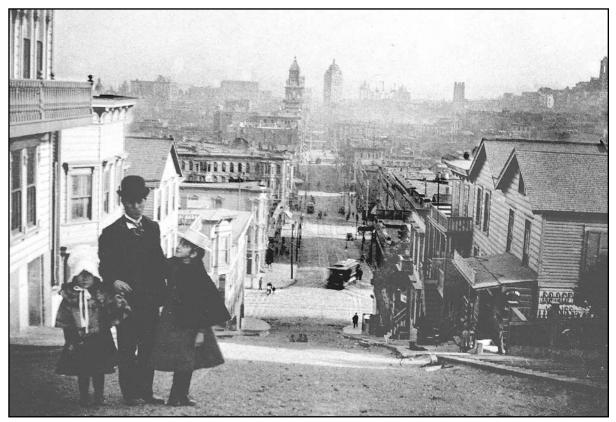
By Catherine Accardi



Taken at the corner of Kearny and Pacific Streets c1892.
KEARNY STREET LOOKING NORTH COURTESY OF THE SAN FRANCISCO HISTORY CENTER, SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY

We are looking north toward the Kearny Street steps. As early as the mid 1800s, the steps provided a much needed connection between San Francisco's business district to the south and the residential section of North Beach to the north. Originally, developer Frederick O. Layman planned a cable car line right up the hill at this location. The plan failed. In the center of the photograph, we can see a portion of Broadway Street lined with businesses and apartments.

#### And this is the way it was in the early days of the Kearny Street Steps.



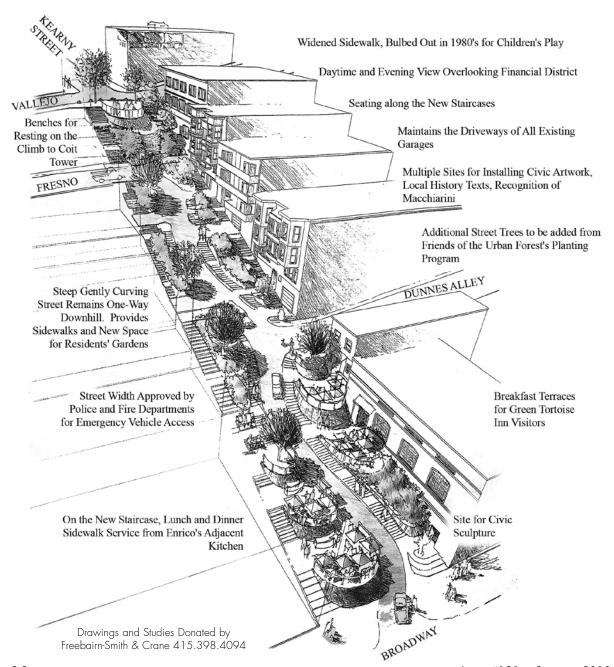
Taken in the early 1900s from Vallejo Street looking south down the Kearny Street steps. Kearny Street Looking South from the J.B. Monaco Collection, courtesy of Richard Monaco, San Francisco Public Library

San Francisco's financial district can be seen in the background. Here we observe a family posing for the photographer, J.B. Monaco. Residences line the street, three more children sit farther down, in the middle of the street, while a dog lies on the steps quietly guarding his neighborhood.

The marvelous photographs above are among the over 180 vintage images that will appear in the book, *Images of America—San Francisco's North Beach and Telegraph Hill* by Catherine Accardi, due to be released in early 2011.

## THE KEARNY STEPS PROJECT:

by Rod Freebarin Smith



## BROADWAY TO VALLEJO STREET

A short history of yet another Unbuilt, another fine telegraph hill Project still possible, and one that may, One day, could be realized....

#### **Background**

In 2002, the possibility of placement of a large sculpture, a casting of Emperor Norton and his dogs at the apex of the Kearney Steps brought the surrounding community together to consider what they really wanted in this unusual city block, if, indeed, they had objections to placing the Emperor.

The street level from Broadway to Vallejo rises the equivalence of an eight story building, providing visitors seeking Coit Tower with a direct route and, of course, helping locals to get home more comfortably and safely: How could those stairs and the street with one-way (down) vehicular street be made a beautiful, even an unusual and attractive part of our Hill, both day and night?

Fast forward through thousands of dollars of donated engineering, of professional cost estimating, of urban design consulting, of more than a year's meetings involving broad mailings, well voiced and excellent local citizen participation.... a most orderly and democratic piece of consensus planning that led to a lively design-plan that reworked the whole block, top to bottom. It needed approximately \$1.5 to \$2.0 million to build. In City terms, a very small project.

continued on page 38

#### THE ALFA NOSE

continued from page 17

including historic Water Street, the original waterline. The World Cup inspired Café Trieste to install two monitors in the historic/landmark café

Tony Gantner noted the North Beach Jazz Festival, Sat/July 24<sup>th</sup> is experimenting this year. Jazz will be played one Saturday, along Grant Ave (Union to Filbert) and Green Street (Grant to Columbus), with a sound stage at Green/Union. There will be one big beer garden. John Miles, who runs Mojito, has organized the festival, and *SF Weekly* is underwriting it. For the first time the festival will not be in the Park, rather on the street, operated profitability (hopefully).

Welcome Danny Macchiarini as the new president of the North Beach Merchants Association. Danny is negotiating the perfect Parking Day, beginning in September for a two month trial basis, a spin off the Park[ing] Day that opened up parking spaces along Grant Ave to "parklets" last September. Danny is meeting with Supervisor Chiu to ensure 'parklets'

do not inadvertently favor one business over another, and, neighbors know they may sit and enjoy without obligation of purchase.

John Perino of Focus Gallery, which represents Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Jack Micheline and Jack Hirshman, notes Focus sublets the gallery for monthly, 2 week, or 4 day weekend shows. Focus is scheduled in Open Studios in October and, the ArtWalk in September. Also, John is (sort of) considering giving drawing lessons.

#### In Other News

erry Hurtado is organizing an Art Fair next month at Washington Square Park.....
The Italian deli between Tony's Pizza and the Flower shop on Stockton is sadly no more, but Tony's is moving in...And I'm still waiting for S.F. Opera in the Washington Square Park...perhaps pieces from Girl of the Golden West with the six-gun and pony?

#### Grant Avenue Enlivened continued from page 15

With all entertainers there's a saying, "Don't quit your day job." Leon took that advice and worked a day job as a senior electrical engineer with BART, retiring in 2000.

Next to Leon is Richard Hadlock on the soprano sax. Richard is a New England boy (OK, he's 82) who is well traveled, having lived in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil, where he picked up his first saxophone at about age 10. Years later, while in college in Philadelphia taking business classes, he was fortunate enough to study under the legendary jazz great Sidney Bechet. He came to SF in 1957 from New York hired by Turk Murphy. He joined Mal Sharpe at Tipsy's in 1962.

Richard is one of those guys who always has a full plate and still keeps very busy. He was the Jazz Critic for the Examiner for a while in the 60s, wrote a book called "Jazz Masters of the Twenties," and to this day has a radio show for KCSM at 7PM every Sunday night. He sets the bar high for any senior.

Last but not least is drummer Carmen Cansino, the 2nd cousin of Rita (Cansino) Hayworth. Her vaudeville performing parents came to San Francisco from New York where they had settled after migrating from Spain. After a time living at Mt. Shasta she returned to San Francisco and quickly picked up the skills of a percussionist. She played with this group at Enrico's in the 80s.

When the group goes on a break, look around at Savoy Tivoli's interior decor. Then take a walk thru the back and go next door to the Tivoli's other bar. You will see the unmistakable decorative imprint of the late Freddie Kuh, who owned both the Spaghetti Factory and the New Tivoli, as it was called back then. There's a lot of North Beach history connected with the Savoy Tivoli and still more in progress. Drop by some Saturday afternoon and experience it live and in person.

Frequent Semaphore contributor Dick Boyd is the author of "Broadway North Beach, The Golden Years."

#### Colosseo Restaurant continued from page 18

lamb and veal shanks, the entrée that bears the first prize is the Cernia al Forno, a generous piece of tender, perfectly cooked, local California Sea Bass atop a mound of broccoli, roasted artichoke and sliced potatoes. There is nothing about this dish that is not absolutely wonderful.

Most of the restaurant's delicious desserts are not made in-house. However, we shared a plate of tiramisu, which they do make there. It was light, flavorful, creamy and fresh. Colosseo is applying for an entertainment license to complete an idea of bringing Opera Night to the restaurant, featuring the restaurant's General Manager, Luca Lazzetta, a trained opera singer from Italy.

Salvatore has every intention of making this work. Even his generosity of extending an ongoing 20% discount for wine and food to the locals makes me think he will be around for years. Congratulations, Salvatore, on a job well done!



## sem.a.phore

Definition: To convey information using visual signals, such as flags, lights and mechanical arms.

In the 19th century, Telegraph Hill was a lookout spot. A man stood at the top and watched for ships arriving through the Golden Gate. He used semaphore signals to spell out ships' names to the people below who were waiting for goods and mail. Neighbors who formed Telegraph Hill Dwellers in 1954 named their newsletter to salute this early use of the Hill.

## RURAL MEETS URBAN, LOCALLY: THE NEW NORTH BEACH FARMERS' MARKET

by Katie Hopkins

ur new Farmers' Market is just a short block long, located on Mason Street between Columbus Avenue and Lombard Street. On this strip you can buy fresh organic fruits, produce, eggs, honey, cheeses, bread, flowers, jams, olive oils, and just about anything your heart desires (if it's in season). One of the nicest things is the crowd... there really isn't much of one. The folks who attend are people you know, and the vendors are relaxed and take the time to give you tips and help you pick the best of the crop.

The North Beach Farmers' Market is brought on by Urban Table Farmers' Markets. Urban Table is a non-profit organization that establishes farmers' markets adapted to today's lifestyles. Their markets aim to provide a healthier alternative to current industrial shopping practices by giving residents access to locally grown produce and other sustainable raised items in a convenient setting. They believe that by making farmers' markets more accessible, they will be able to connect rural farmers to more urban communities.

Some of their vendors are: Kasiwase Farms, Fifth Crow Farm, Hidden Star Orchards, East West Gourmet, among others. Some of my favorite items are the spinach or pumpkin bolani with lentil curry from East West Gourmet Afghan Food. I also love the local wildflower honey from Snyders (great for allergies). Last Sunday I purchased 3 gigantic beautiful beets for \$2, enough for 4 meals!

Take the time to stop in for a visit this Sunday (9 am to 1 pm)—you will be pleasantly surprised. The Market will be here until October 24, 2010.



North Beach Farmer's Market.

PHOTO BY YSABEL SANTIAGO

## OUR MEMBERS RECOMMEND

#### The DeLise Dessert Café

Recommended by Marion D Meyerson

I've fallen in love with DeLise Dessert Café! The miniature pastries are absolutely unique and are made fresh daily using many local high quality ingredients. Most of the pastries are baked with whole wheat flour and some are sugar-free. They are so dainty in size and elegant in appearance that they leave you guilt-free and blissful. Included are a variety of exquisite cupcakes, cookies, scones, and cheese cake. When a local culinary website described their miniature Peking duck scones, they completely sold out the next day!

The owners, Eloise and Dennis Leung, are a warm and welcoming young couple. They met in 2004 as students at the California Culinary Academy and married in 2008. Both worked as pastry chefs for a now-defunct south-of-Market restaurant but always dreamed of starting their own venue. They opened DeLise in October 2009 and welcomed baby Gabriel two months later.

In addition to the exquisite miniature pastries, Eloise and Dennis serve breakfast bagels and a wonderful variety of baguette sandwiches including my favorite, the egg salad truffle sandwich. They make their own organic ice cream, sorbet, and frozen yogurt daily in small batches and in a variety of flavors. A favorite in my own family is espresso ice cream made with Four Barrel coffee beans. They also make several flavors for vegans.

The Leungs buy quality local products when possible. They serve Red Blossom organic whole-leaf teas, Four Barrel coffee beans, dairy from the Straus Family Creamery, and House of Bagels items. There are several seats at a table and counter for those who want to enjoy the light and cheery space. Take-out is, of course, always an option. I have served their ice creams and pastries to house guests on many occasions and have gotten rave reviews!



DeLise Dessert Café is just the kind of locallyowned business that makes our neighborhood so special!

#### DeLise Dessert Café

327 Bay Street between Powell and Mason 8:30 a.m.–7:30 p.m. Mon–Fri, and from 10 a.m.–7:30 p.m. Saturdays. 415-399-9694 www.delisesf.com

#### Cafe Baonecci

Recommended by Mary Tolaro Noyes

affè Baonecci Pizzeria at 518 Green Street is here in North Beach but seems over there in Italy, both in time and place. It's a locale where old-timers go to experience the way it used to be in North Beach. New-comers and visitors from Italy drop by to feel at home, and the rest of us to recapture continued on page 27

#### Our Members Recommend continued from page 26

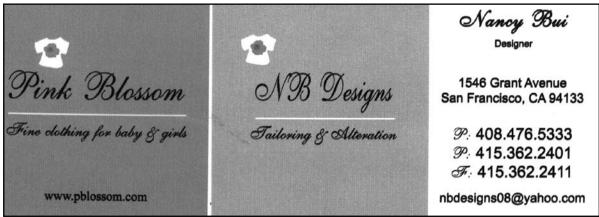
what it felt like when we've enjoyed a lovely moment over there. This homey, bright space has captured the attention of neighbors, visitors, the press, and especially pizza and film-lovers looking for a kind of family gathering.

"Going to Caffè Baonecci reminds me of when I was a little girl and teenager," explains Lorraine Macchello, author of *The Dowry: Legacies of an Italian-American Daughter.* "Green Street was one of my favorite haunts," she adds. "The lively cadence of spoken Italian filled the air on Saturday morning shopping excursions in North Beach. One didn't even have to know English to get along!" Walking into what was once known as Danilo Bakery recalls that same atmosphere, with the entire Gambaccini family from Altopascio (Lucca), Italy, involved in the enterprise: *papà* Walter, *mamma* Stefania, and *figli* (sons) Elia and Filippo. Long-time residents Audrey Tomaselli, neighborhood personal

historian, Alma from Alma's Alterations up on Union Street; and Frankie from The Dogfather, almost next door. maek regular stops at Baonecci. The important ingredients in the "Old North Beach" recipe include the friendly, energetic Italian family, the music of Italian conversation and, certainly, the authentic Italian food.

The "Old North Beach" recipe works. Sitting at the big table on Thursday evenings to watch an Italian film and eat real Italian pizza with neighbors, visitors, old-timers, and new-comers takes me back to gatherings in Italy; and further back to my Sicilian grandparents' big oak dining room table in New Hampshire, where the sweetest memories of my life are rooted.

Caffè Baonecci Pizzeria, 516 Green Street, www.baonecci.com. Noyes is the author of "Bologna Reflections: an Uncommon Guide," www.jumpthefencepress.com



Rivera in San Francisco continued from page 19

example of Rivera's influence occurred there four months later. A cadre of leftist artists, many the friends of Diego and Frida, tested the boundaries of freedom of speech while working on the Coit Tower murals. For example, in Bernard B. Zakheim's panel at the tower *Library*, a hand reaches into the stacks for Karl Marx's *Das Kapital*. A new edition of his daughter Masha Zakheim's *Coit Tower* book came

out for the Tower's 75th anniversary.

Rivera returned to San Francisco in 1940 to star in the "Art in Action" program of the Golden Gate International Exposition (GGIE) on Treasure Island. Diego and Frida, who had divorced in 1939, remarried in City Hall on December 8, his 54th birthday. The *Pan American Unity* mural he executed at the GGIE now resides at City College of San Francisco.

## PARKS, TREES, & BIRDS REPORT

by Judy Irving

Permeable Landscapes: We had a great slide presentation about "gardening" our sidewalks, street triangles, and other places where plants work better than concrete, by Plant\*SF's Executive Director Jane Martin at Canessa Gallery in June.

Washington Square Park: Craig Heckman, our committee's esteemed landscape designer, produced a final draft of the park's "Design Intent," after researching the historic landscape designs, maps, and planting plans. Marianne Bertucelli will set up a park walk-through and discussion for all interested neighbors to get community input on tree management and replacement. Thanks to Ken Maley of Friends of Washington Square Park for shepherding this process along.

Italian Stone Pine: A lovely mature tree at

Montgomery and Alta was posted for removal by the Bureau of Urban Forestry. Since there is a general con-

sensus to save the tree, Marilee Gaffney, co-chair, is looking into the possibility of restricting the height of trucks on that block, cabling the tree to the wall above, and/or installing "traffic calming" at that location. Thanks to Dan Lorimer for his input and perspective, and to Carla Short (DPW) for working so well with the neighbors.

Weeding at Pioneer Park: Thanks to Jeannie Forsman for helping weed the south "stump" area. Milo Linaman, the gardener, had earlier planted several varieties of native grasses, shrubs, and flowers. Our small team got quite a bit done, and the area is starting to look better.





Poplars near Julius' Castle before and after THD-sponsored pruning and vine removal

#### **Schadenfreude** cont'd from page 12

and gloating? Give him his thirty seconds of fame. He'll come crawling back on his belly. You'll see."

Only the youngest poet, Zachary Nova, remains silent. He ponders what's left of his cheap red wine—sheep dip, the boys call it. Rhys noticing a subtle shaking of Nova's head, the mildest suggestion of dissent, and pounces.

"You're his protégé, young Zachary," Rhys declares, as if he's reading an indictment. "Whose ass has this third-rate poser been kissing?"

"Kaz should be published," Nova says, downing, with a flourish, the last of the sheep dip "You're all jealous. He's the best poet in North Beach, hands down. He rhymes and that pisses you off, I know. But he's earned this and I'm happy for him." Knowing what's coming, Nova flinches.

"Well," Rhys says. "He's had your ass, for one, I see." The others close in like hunting lionesses bringing down a baby water buffalo. "This is a community, see? Genet, here. And Marco. And Omar, Miguel, and me. And, I thought, you. A community. We don't care if he rhymes, we don't care who he's screwing, or who's screwing him. But we do care about treason."

"I care if he rhymes," Marco says.

"Treason, Zach," Rhys continues. "He sandbagged us. Holding back work and then sneaking off to sell it to some big-deal publisher is a betrayal. Of me. Of you. Of us all."

"Maybe he was tired of sitting around here and getting soused every day and never producing any work," says Nova, inviting slaughter. "Have you ever thought of that?"

"Traitor! Traitor!" Omar shrieks, hopping excitedly from one foot to the other.

"Hey! Pipe down back there!" Chick yells from behind the espresso machine. "If you wanna have a knock-down drag-out, take it outside."

"It's raining outside," calls one of the poets.

"Then shut the hell up."

Rhys turns quickly to Nova and hisses, "Kaz is

a part of this little cadre, whether he likes it or not. So its play ball or else find a new place to roost. And some new friends." Gathering his cape about him, Rhys stalks out of the café.

Kazimir Clegg's success hit the Wise Men with the force of a cluster bomb. Their little coven had been formed as a purely defensive spasm intended to ease the pain of foraging in an artistic wilderness where poetry was an unappreciated aesthetic. It gave them the illusion of a united front, a bulwark protecting their fragile world from posers, grifters, and cultural philistines.

Now Kaz is in New York, groveling for fame, shattering their bell jar. What do you call it, then, if not betrayal?

Only Zachary Nova doesn't see it that way. He owes his membership in the Wise Men to Kaz, and more importantly his entrée into the North Beach milieu. As a poetics instructor at the New College, Kaz schooled Nova in rhyme and meter and recognized in the young man an ocean of promise. When the semester ended, he invited Nova to continue his apprenticeship in the back of the Caffe Trieste. Naturally introverted and tone deaf to the hipster culture of the Mission District, where most young poets his age do their café hopping, Nova accepted. He had no reason to doubt his decision, until now.

He calls Kaz in New York.

His mentor is subdued. It's not going well, Kaz says. There have been some "glitches," a few problems with the publisher. He hopes to have them sorted out in a day or two. "No need to trouble the others with this."

Nova avoids the café for a few days, disappearing into the Mission, haunting the book shops along Valencia Street and gradually shifting his allegiance from cheap Italian ravioli to cheap Mexican burritos. Running into some of his former New College mates, he joins them at a poetry reading at the Café Revolution. Later, Nova himself reads at another

continued on page 30

#### Schadenfreude cont'd from page 29

coffeehouse where North Beach seems as far away as the dark side of the moon. He feels like a newly paroled prisoner.

Kaz calls late one night and it's obvious that he's been drinking. He is slurring his words and Nova has a hard time understanding exactly what happened in New York, but it's clear the deal is dead. Kaz goes on a rant about East Coast chauvinism and the Jews controlling culture before falling silent for a time. "My agent," he finally says. "My agent, she warned me that these guys might be unreasonable. She did what she could, but ..." There's another silence and Nova thinks he hears Kaz weeping.

Then, "It's done. It's over." Kaz asks Nova to explain things to the Wise Men. Nova says he will. Instead, he scrawls a note and leaves it for Carl at the café. Then Zachary Nova hightails it to the Mission and isn't seen around North Beach again for a long, long time.

The Wise Men are gathered under the mural of the Italian fisherman when Kazimir Clegg walks into the café, smiling bravely but looking wan. He's standing in line for coffee when Carl Rhys strolls over and lays a consoling hand on his shoulder.

"I'm sorry, Kaz. I'm sorry things didn't work out for you. Here, let me buy your cappuccino."

Kaz joins the Wise Men at the back table and tries to explain what went wrong. The publisher's offer of an author's collection of forty-three poems in a single volume had, by the time things fell apart, been reduced to five of the shortest pieces, fitted into a comprehensive survey of West Coast poetry. Worse than that, Kaz felt he was being lowballed on the money. His agent did her best but Kaz lost his cool and the publisher, now royally pissed off, scuttled the deal.

"If you'd been some ponce from Vermont, you'd have your book by now," Genet says, stroking his goatee philosophically. "You'd probably be in a second printing."

"Or some pinky-ringed goombah from Joizey," Omar vamps.

"You're better off here," Rhys says severely. "Among those who love you. Remember that."

Warmed, Kaz nevertheless lapses into an incon-

solable silence, staring into the foam of his cappuccino. The Wise Men pretend to cheer Kaz with catty remarks disguised as good-natured ribbing, but all the while they leer behind his back, exchanging knowing smirks, their eyes ablaze in triumph.

Then a beautiful woman walks in. She's about forty and dressed in black from head to toe—beret, fitted turtleneck sweater, pencil skirt slit discreetly at the sides, leggings, tap shoes. A silver-gray scarf provides the only contrast to this indigo vision. Black hair, long and straight, cascades past her almond-shaped green eyes, past her full red



Issue #191 • Summer 2010





#### Schadenfreude

continued from page 30

lips, and down her back. The requisite curves are there, and then some. The fraternal gloating stops and the Wise Men freeze, their clever lines stuck somewhere south of the epiglottis. She's looking at them. Then she smiles, waves, sets down her umbrella, and walks over to their table. They ogle her like tomcats as she approaches. The straight ones do, anyway.

Kaz stands and the woman hugs him. "What on earth are you doing here?" he says.

"I got him to reconsider," she says. "They're going to do the book, as originally planned. It's a good deal. The money's decent, considering."

Kaz drives an excited fist into his palm. He hugs her again, harder. "Baby, baby, ba-a-bee!"

Then he pulls away. "I'm forgetting my manners. This is Annabel Sarkisian, my agent." The others sit in stunned silence.

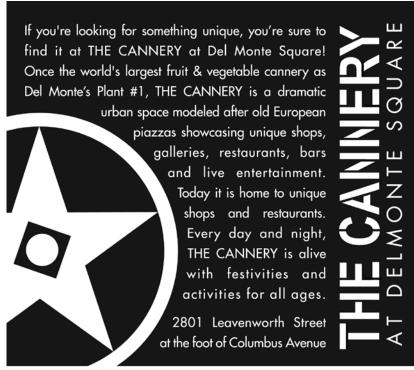
"Charmed," Marco finally says.

Carl Rhys glares at her. "You flew all the way to San Francisco, just to tell him that?"

Annabel smiles an impossibly pretty smile. "I was coming here anyway and I thought why not deliver the good news in person." She takes Kaz's arm and gives it a squeeze. He's gurgling with joy.

Carl Rhys looks at Annabel, then at Kaz. His head drops to his chest and a dark thought fills his head. Sometimes it *does* matter who you screw.

Tony Long is a journalist and fiction writer. Like Kaz, he is looking for an agent.



## WWW.THECANNERY.COM

### FRIENDS OF WASHINGTON SQUARE

Meet on the  $2^{nd}$  Tuesday every month, with work parties in the Square every quarter. See website for times, dates, locations. WWW.friendsofwashingtonsquare.com



#### DR. THOMAS L. VILAND, D.C.

Chiropractor

150 Lombard Street, Suite 2 San Francisco, CA 94111 Office (415) 421-1115 Fax (415) 421-1116

### Jim Fisher

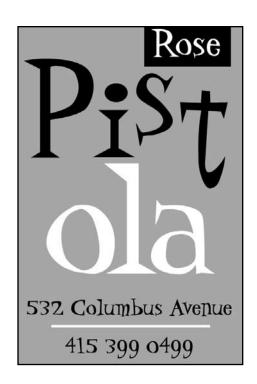
Building neighborhoods one family at a time!

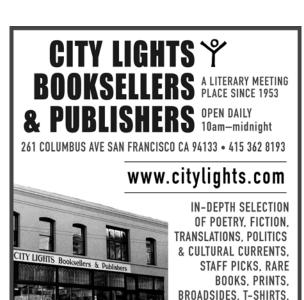
415.738.7072 www.JimFisherHomes.com





423 Columbus Ave. San Francisco, CA 94133 415-397-6261





Hanna & Sandy Suleiman

TOTE BAGS, GIFT

**CERTIFICATES & MORE!** 

#### SAVE THESE DATES! UPCOMING THD SOCIAL EVENTS\*

#### THD is gearing up for a summer of social activities that you won't want to miss:

**Saturday, July 17–9am–11:30am** Meet your neighbors while volunteering to help beautify Joe DiMaggio Playground as part of the District 3 Community Clean Team! THD volunteers will join Friends of Joe DiMaggio Playground in painting, weeding and cleaning the playground from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., followed by a complimentary lunch.

**Monday, July 26–6pm–8pm** THD will host a cocktails & appetizers hour(s) to welcome one of North Beach's newest dining and drinking establishments, The Comstock Saloon, 155 Columbus Ave., 6:30-8:30 p.m. Light appetizers will be offered and there will be a no-host bar. Event charge: \$5

**Saturday, September 11—8pm or dusk...** Film Night in the Park, sponsored by the San Francisco Neighborhood Theater Foundation. Bring a blanket and some munchies to watch "Amelie" under the stars. Washington Square Park, 8:00 p.m. or Dusk.

**Sunday, September 12—5pm–8pm** Watch the sun set over the Bay...THD Fall Membership Dinner & Meeting at the historic South End Rowing Club, 500 Jefferson Street, 5:00–8:00 p.m.

**Saturday & Sunday, September 25th & 26th - Third Annual North Beach ArtWalk.** Come and celebrate the arts in North Beach by taking a stroll in the neighborhood to visit artists and listen to poetry and music in local venues.

\*Watch your e-mail or your mailbox for more information about these upcoming events. If you are currently receiving announcements via snail mail and would prefer to receive them on-line, send your e-mail address to membership@thd.org.





### ART & CULTURE REPORT

by Julie Jaycox

Tay's A&C Salon, Diego and Frida In North Beach and Beyond, was a full house. Literally every chair in Canessa Gallery was full as two speakers gave us a glimpse into the 1930s life of the famous muralist and his artist wife. Alex Szerlip, A&C Committee member, took us on a 'walking tour' using Kim Frohsin's excellent location shots of the places Rivera and Kahlo stayed and painted, giving us an intimate idea of both their lives together and in the city social scene. Will Maynez, of the City College Diego Rivera Mural Project, gave us a look at the volume and content of Rivera's San Francisco-based murals, SF having the largest number of his murals outside of Mexico. (see Will's article in this issue) He has taken on the role of fundraiser and conservator for the Pan American Unity mural first painted at the Golden Gate International Exposition on Treasure Island, now residing at City



Presenters Alex Szelip and Will Maynez at Art & Culture's Rivera/Kahlo Salon.

PHOTO BY ANGELA MANGINELLI

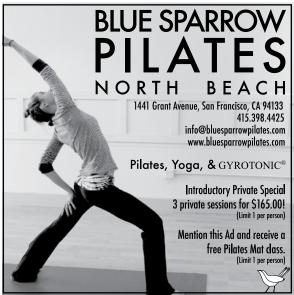
College and open to the public. Excellent quesadillas with homemade salsa grilled on site by Pete Stanwood and Wild Abandon Catering refreshed the audience between the talks, along with a beer or two, of course!



## A&C Committee Member Upcoming Exhibitions:

- Third Annual North Beach ArtWalk presented by THD Art & Culture Committee, September 25 & 26 in locations all over the neighborhood. Enjoy art, poetry, music and some special deals at local businesses. Live Worms group show. Parking validation and shuttle available.
- Chair Paintings and Grounded Series by Candace Loheed Sep. 1- Oct. 15 @ Jackson Place Salon,
   633 Battery Street, M-F 9-5pm, Sat 9-2pm
  - Nature's Geometry: Surprises of Botanical Design, Photographs by Julie Jaycox Sep. 1-Dec. 31 @ San Francisco Botanical Garden's Horticulture Library, Golden Gate Park, 9th Ave & Lincoln Way, daily 10-4pm except major holidays
  - + The Journey: Photos of a Move to San Francisco by Angela Manginelli Sep. 15-30@ Vesuvio, 255 Columbus, Daily 6am-2am
  - Group show including Candace Loheed, Angela Manginelli, Julie Jaycox, Leo Madrid @ Hotel des Arts, 447 Bush St, ongoing through Dec 2010
  - Group Show including Janet Pak, Danny Macchiarini, Candace Loheed, Julie Jaycox @ Supervisor David Chiu's office, 2nd Floor, SF City Hall, until September







## Fog Hill Market Hanna Chedyak

415-781-8817

1300 Kearny San Francisco, CA 94133



#### RISTORANTE ITALIANO

659 Columbus Avenue San Francisco, CA 94133 Tel: 1 415.397.7355 Fax:1 415.397.7357

www.piazzapellegrini.com



麗安殯儀館 FD-101

CA Insurance Lic. #OB28431 FDR 2082

649 Green Street San Francisco, California 94133-3801 415.433.5692 Fax 415.433.2290

William K. Steiner

史威林

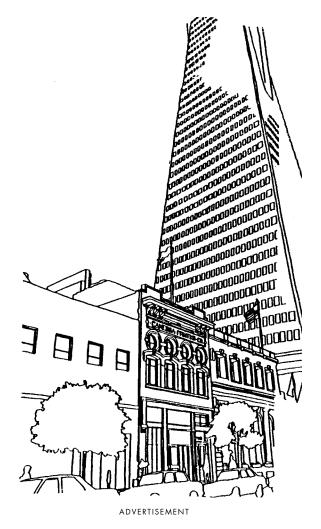




Great Shopping, Dining & Services
There is No Other Place Like North Beach!



www.NorthBeachMerchants.com



Breakfast & Lunch 7:30 to 2:30 this is 7 days a week. PAT'S CAFE

Dinner Wed & Thurs 5:30-9 p.m. Fri & Sat 5:30-10 p.m.

2330 Taylor Street San Francisco, CA 94133 415-776-8735

IT'S NOT JUST BREAKFAST & LUNCH ANYMORE— NOW OPEN FOR DINNERS WEDNESDAY THRU SATURDAY!

### THD BOARD MOTIONS

FOR THE MONTHS OF MARCH—MAY 2010

#### March 2010

Motion: For THD to spend \$150.00 for a presentation to THD by Plant\*SF regarding sidewalk gardens. The Motion passed.

Motion: For THD to pay Audrey Tomasselli half of the costs for the Oral History of AP Giannini to a maximum of \$650.00, and that THD will retain copyrights of the transcription. The Motion passed.

Motion: To restrict tour buses to Bay, Columbus, Beach, Jefferson, Embarcadero and Broadway, so that there would be no tour buses on Russian Hill or Telegraph Hill. The Motion passed.

Motion: For THD to donate \$1500 to the Telegraph Hill Neighborhood Center after April 1, 2010. The Motion passed.

**Note:** At its March Meeting the THD Board of Directors passed a motion in opposition to the development of 555 Washington Street . The text appears in the Spring 2010 Semaphore.

#### April 2010

Motion: Be it resolved that the Telegraph Hill Dwellers are concerned about the impacts of the Recreation and Park Department's proposal to introduce the highly urbanized artificial turf fields into Golden Gate Park, removing topsoil and replacing natural plantings with fake grass, increasing paving in the Park, degrading wildlife habitat, increasing traffic to the Park and through the neighborhoods, decreasing the quality of the night sky, infringing on the wild nature of Ocean Beach, and changing the overall character of the western edge of the park from a sylvan retreat to a developed sports complex. THD recommends that a full Environmental Impact Report be completed on this project so that the public can be informed of the extent of this project, the impacts can be better understood, and alternatives can be proposed. The Motion passed.

#### May 2010

**Motion:** THD will acquire a booth at the North Beach festival. **The Motion passed** 

Motion: THD will adopt the budget as an interim budget

with a review slated for October 2010. The Motion passed

Motion: Whereas, three separate requests for Discretionary Review (DRs) have been filed by residents of Edith Street, a narrow mid-block alley off Grant Avenue between Greenwich and Lombard Streets, which has a clear context of 3-story buildings of the age and design of the historic buildings in North Beach; and

Whereas, the proposed project would replace the existing 2-story single-family residential structure, located between 2 alleys, 17-foot wide Edith Alley and 9-foot wide Edgardo Place, with a 4-story structure, which maximizes the building envelope, extending between both property lines and both alleys, negatively impacting the height and scale of Edith Street; and

Whereas, the height and design of the proposed new building is out of character with the streetscape and surrounding area of North Beach and Telegraph Hill and is inconsistent with the City's adopted Residential Design Guidelines; and

Whereas, the height of the building is incompatible with the Guidelines for San Francisco Alleys which state, "[b]ecause alleys are narrower than streets, appropriate heights along alleys are lower than on streets"; and

Whereas, THD and nearby neighbors opposed a similarly sized version of this project proposed in 2004, and the Planning Department wrote to the project sponsor that: "The height and scale of the proposed project would negatively impact the prevailing scale of the built environment on Edith Street"; and

Whereas, despite many invitations, the current project sponsor and architect have refused to meet with THD's Planning & Zoning Committee together with affected neighbors in an attempt to work with the project sponsor and avoid the necessity of a DR; and

Whereas, in spite of the Residential Design Guidelines, the Guidelines for San Francisco Alleys, and the Planning Department's 2006 determination quoted above, the Planning Department's newly formed "Residential Design Team" reversed the Department's original position and approved the proposed project, therefore be it

Resolved that the Telegraph Hill Dwellers opposes the 30 Edith Street project as currently proposed and supports the requests for Discretionary Review filed by the nearby residents. The Motion passed.

## Kearny Steps Project continued from page 23 The Plan

Fire, security, emergency vehicles were accommodated with their agencies giving their accord; the "non-Code-complying" stairs, many of which were broken, dangerous, and irregular, were to be rebuilt. Handsomely planted and furnished, new level resting spots were introduced in the plan; a winding terracing of new residential front gardens defined a new "slower" and more gently curving street paving. Multiple opportunities for placing new street art including Norton were created; the two anchor businesses (Enrico's and the Tortoise Inn) and the building owners below, on Broadway, signed on with enthusiasm.

## For Telegraph Hill: How to Fund Valued Improvements of This Kind?

THD, the Art Commission, Planning and DPW all concurred in praising the merits of this proposal. Citywide, political support for a Supervisorial and Mayoral budget allocation was, understandably, seen in competition with all similar projects. No matter

#### THE NEWS FROM

The paragraphs below are excerpted from the newsletter regularly produced by Captain Anna Brown of Central Station. To receive the Central Station Newsletter, please send an e-mail to anna.brown@sfgov.org.

#### Burglaries, Burglaries, Burglaries....

First, the good news....with great follow-up and DNA matches, Sergeant Pera was able to connect an individual to several burglaries. It wasn't difficult to find the culprit as he was already sitting in jail. Sergeant Pera booked him on the burglaries. Great work! Sergeant Pera is also busy working on several possible leads in connection with other burglaries.

The bad news is that we continue to be plagued by burglaries in the district, both commercial and residential. The commercial burglaries are primarily in the downtown area and entry is gained during night hours when the businesses are closed. Residential burglaries are primarily apartments; in several cases windows were left open and it is believed entry was gained via the open windows. If you see anything that looks suspicious,

how keen local neighborhood support was, there was and still are plenty of fine projects in tough competition for funding. The City is also currently teetering, like the State, toward a debtor's abyss.

One promise from our then Supervisor, Aaron Peskin, came in the form of his "setting aside" approximately \$40,000 of DPW water line improvement funds, from a project underway at the time in this same block. A very nice response, though some doubted its feasibility. The concept was to use that money and more, later on, to be incorporated in work realizing this plan's comprehensive upgrading of the whole block.

So, the plan for our steeply pitched and very visible Kearny Street block above Broadway remains today yet another plan in the drawer. It waits for its donor "angels", foundation money, or for times when San Francisco can once again afford to fund urban safety and small beautification projects of this kind.

Alternative approaches to funding this project from within the Telegraph Hill Dwellers membership or from any other source would, of course, allow the project to jump forward. Anyone out there keen about this one? Its realization is within the price of just one Telegraph Hill residence.

#### CENTRAL STATION

please contact police dispatch immediately. If something doesn't look right or feel right, trust your instincts and call. Our station inspectors are working on catching the burglars but we need your help. It is more than likely 2 or 3 persons are committing all the burglaries in the district so if we can catch at least one, it will have a significant impact. If you wish to provide information but remain anonymous, use text a tip.

Now that summer is fast approaching and vacations are planned, here are some good tips:

- stop mail and newspaper delivery or have someone pick it up,
- consider using light timers that can be set to go on and off at specific times,
- · install motion sensor lights outside,
- install a security alarm system,
- lock all doors and windows,
- make sure all windows and doors properly lock; replace faulty mechanisms,
- turn the volume on phones and answering machines down so they cannot be heard by others,
- cut back bushes and trees that may serve as hiding places for burglars.



#### TELEGRAPH HILL DWELLERS

Voice Mail/Hotline: 273-1004. Fax: 255-6499. Web Site: www.thd.org P.O. Box 330159 • San Francisco. CA 94133

#### THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2009-2010

President: Vedica Puri

Vice President: Nancy Shanahan Recording Secretary: Andy Katz

Corresponding Secretary: Mary Lipian

Treasurer: David Smolen

Semaphore: Art Peterson

Financial Secretary: Chris Stockton Historian: Termeh Yeghiazarian

#### **DIRECTORS**

Nate Baca

Lynn Sanchez Jon Golinger

....

Merle Goldstone

Judy Irving

Julie Jaycox

Katherine Petrin

Sarah Kliban Katie Hopkins

## THD COMMITTEES NEED YOU

You can make a difference! Join one of THD's committees, meet and work with your fellow Hill Dwellers to improve life on the Hill.

#### STANDING COMMITTEES

PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION. Promotes efforts to ease congestion, optimize white zones, upgrade public transportation. Works with Department of Parking and Traffic.

PLANNING AND ZONING. Nancy Shanahan, 986-7094, Mary Lipian, 391-5652. Monitors and reviews proposed development projects for consistency with applicable City ordinances. Works with Planning Department staff and represents THD before the Historic Preservation Commission, Planning Commission, Zoning Administrator and other regulating bodies to protect historic resources and maintain neighborhood character. Assists members to learn more about and participate in planning and zoning issues.

SEMAPHORE. Editor, Art Peterson 956-7817; artpeterson@nwp.org. The editor and staff produce a quarterly magazine for THD members.

PROGRAM. Arranges social events, including quarterly membership meetings and getacquainted social functions.

BUDGET. David Smolen, treasurer@thd.org. As prescribed in Bylaws for Treasurer.

MEMBERSHIP. Chris Stockton, membership@thd.org. As prescribed in Bylaws for Financial Secretary

ARCHIVIST: Rozell Overmire, rozell@ureach.com

#### SPECIAL COMMITTEES AND PROJECTS

PARKS, TREES, AND BIRDS. Judy Irving, chair. Information and projects concerning local parks, green spaces and street trees.

THD WEB SITE. Webmaster, Al Fontes; webmaster@thd.org. Shared information about meetings, local concerns and events.

ART AND CULTURE. Julie Jaycox, chair. Organizes events and projects that celebrate the art and humanities of our neighborhood.

#### LIAISONS WITH OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

COALITION FOR SAN FRANCISCO NEIGHBORHOODS. Representative, Gerry Crowley, 781-4201; gerrycrowley@aol.com. City-wide organization interacts with other neighborhoods to discuss common problems.

NORTH BEACH NEIGHBORHOOD COALITION. Representative, Gerry Crowley. 781-4201; gerry-crowley@aol.com. Tel-Hi-sponsored group of residents, merchants and government agencies working together to address neighborhood issues.

N.E.R.T. Energizes members to take emergency disaster response training program sponsored by the City.

#### WEB SITE = www.thd.org

Whether you want to catch up on THD's Oral Histories, see what the THD is up to, or submit old photos of the Hill, www.thd. org is the place to go. Use the Web site to discover or email information about upcoming meetings in the neighborhood and at City agencies, and ideas and concerns you want the rest of us to know about between *Semaphores*.

Issue #191 • Summer 2010 39

TELEGRAPH HILL DWELLERS P. O. Box 330159 San Francisco, CA 94133

U.S. Postage **PAID** SAN FRANCISCO. CA **PERMIT No. 11882** 

**PRSRT STD** 

#### TELEGRAPH HILL DWELLERS

#### **Schedules of Committee Meetings**

PLANNING & ZONING: Last Thursdays. Call for time and location. 986-7070, 563-3494, 391-5652.

Look to the THD website for information on THD events. Log on to http://www.thd.ora

## For a Voice in Your Neighborhood Join Telegraph Hill Dwellers.

THD Welcomes the following new members and members who have rejoined, March-April: New members: Halli & Robert Celli, Ibby Clifford, Cynthia Cristilli, Lynn Sanchez, Susan Snow, and Donald Yates.

Former members who have rejoined: Anne Buchanan, Jane & Neal Lozins, and Bill Thornton.

NEW MEMBER INFORMAII Sign Up or Sign a Friend Up as a member of Telegraph Hill	_	o THD, PO Box 330159, SF, CA 94133
NAME:	<u>.</u>	
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
PHONE	EMAIL:	
CHECK ENCLOSED FOR 1-YEAR MEMBERSHIF		
Individual \$30 Household \$45 Senior	(age 65 and over) \$20_	_ Senior Household \$35